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## MINUTES

The Town of Manteo Board of Commissioners held their Regular March 3, 2021 meeting at 6:30 p.m. at 407 Budleigh Street, Manteo, NC and via teleconference.

The following members were present:

- Mayor Bobby Owens (remote)
- Mayor Pro-Tem Betty Selby
- Commissioner Darrell Collins (remote)
- Commissioner Richie Burke
- Commissioner Jason Borland
- Commissioner Christine Walker (remote)

The following members were absent: Commissioner Eddie Mann

Also present at the meeting were:

- Town Manager James Ayers
- Town Attorney Ben Gallop
- IT Director Carl Woody
- Town Clerk Jamie Whitley

Mayor Bobby Owens called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Town Manager Ayers did a roll call verifying that there was a quorum: Mayor Owens-present (remote); Mayor Pro-Tem Selby-present; Commissioner Burke-present; Commission Borland-present; Commissioner Collins-present (remote); Commissioner Walker-present (remote); and Commissioner Mann-absent (Called to Duty). Commissioner Mann was called to duty and will not be in attendance. A quorum was established.

Mayor Owens asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of Agenda as presented or amended

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Selby and seconded by Commissioner Borland to approve the agenda as presented and was approved by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Selby, Commissioners Burke, Borland, Walker, and Collins. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mann. **Motion carried.**

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of the items on the Consent Agenda as presented or amended

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Borland and seconded by Commissioner Walker to approve the Consent Agenda with the following items: Regular February 3, 2021 minutes and Recessed February 17, 2021 minutes and was approved by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Selby, Commissioners Burke, Borland, Walker, and Collins. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mann. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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*Members of the public are invited to address the Board of Commissioners on any topic. Public Comment is not intended to require the Board to answer any impromptu questions or to take any action on items brought up during the public comment period. Speakers will address all the comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual Commissioner. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed. Time limits are 3 minutes per person or 5 minutes per group. Please identify yourself and your location so that your statements can be recorded.*

John Robbins, 109 Puddle Lane, Manteo, NC, stated that he has a client that is interested in a property in Pirate's Cove. In order to develop this lot, you have to impact the wetlands. He stated that in the past prior to the current planner, the policy and interpretation of the land use plan allowed for such development. The new planner has denied a CAMA (Coastal Area Management Act) permit to fill wetlands there, in compliance with all the regulations, based on the "Land Use Plan." He stated that he went through the survey and information and prepared a site plan. He stated that he asked the Town Planner about filling the wetlands on this lot as allowed by regulations. He was told that it was not allowed. He stated that he asked why because that policy has changed. He stated that she said that the last group had not applied it properly. He was sent the regulations by the Town Planner. He stated that the regulations said no new development or filling should be allowed within the upland wetlands.

He handed out to the Board some maps that he said were from the Land Use Plan. He stated that there is no definition for upland wetlands or coastal wetlands but the maps draw distinct differences between upland wetlands and coastal wetlands. He stated that CAMA has no term upland wetlands and the CORE has no term upland wetlands. He stated that he met with them at another site and said he was told that was the town's interpretation.

He stated that he requested an answer two weeks ago to several questions and received a response through email that those answers were forthcoming. He stated that the Town Planner contacted him today and told him that he needed to submit an application. He asked why would he spend \$4,000 of his client's money on an application, when he was told that it can't be approved? He asked the Board for help getting answers to his questions that he asked staff in an email on February 18<sup>th</sup>. He stated that any help or meetings with town staff will be greatly appreciated because at this time he cannot get anything.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SUBJECT:** Government and Education Access Channels Committee (GEACC) proposed FY2021-2022 Budget

This is CurrentTV or the Government Access Channel. The Town of Manteo and the other municipalities participate with Dare County and many of the education institutions such as Dare County Schools, the College of The Albemarle, and Coastal Studies Institute - ECU. We are members for \$1,000 per year and we receive in kind services of \$5,000 in this upcoming year for video and other types of services. We get access to CurrentTV and the Government Access Channel and that kind of outreach is important to help us connect with communities.



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**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Selby and seconded by Commissioner Borland to approve the proposed 2021-2022 GEACC Budget and was approved by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Selby, Commissioners Burke, Borland, Walker, and Collins. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mann. **Motion carried.**

#### **MAYOR'S/COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

**Mayor Owens:** The person who spoke during public comment deserves a response. He reminded everyone that most of Pirates Cove was built on a marsh and they were allowed to develop it. He doesn't what the Homeowner's Association is going to say about this property.

**Commissioner Burke:** He asked the question if anyone was copied Mr. Robbin's emails?

The Town Planner and the Town Manager were copied on the emails from Mr. Robbins.

Mr. Ayers stated that we can talk to the Town Attorney about this but we have been in multiple consultations during the past 13 days on the many issues that were raised. Mr. Ayers stated that they will be happy to provide additional briefings as needed in the future.

Commissioner Burke asked for status update on painting no parking zone downtown.

Mr. Ayers stated that some spot painting was done by Public Works. He will follow up on this.

**Commissioner Borland:** He appreciates that Mr. Robbins came out and spoke his voice. He agreed with the Mayor and knows that there are two side to this. He wants some clarity because we have run into problems with grey areas and that is something that the Board is trying to clean up. We want to do the right thing but not impede people from being able to do the right thing. We don't want to stop landowners or potential landowners from doing what they are supposed to do, while not just letting people do whatever they want.

Mr. Ayers stated that they will brief the Board at the appropriate time concerning this topic.

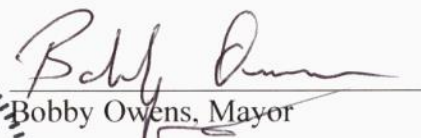
There being no further business to come before the Board or other persons to be heard a motion was made by Commissioner Borland and seconded by Commissioner Walker the meeting was recessed at 6:49 p.m. until March 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Selby, Commissioners Walker, Collins, Borland, and Burke. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mann. **Motion carried.**

This the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2021.

ATTEST:


  
Jamie Whitley, Town Clerk



  
Bobby Owens, Mayor

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